

A Twisting Electrovac Solution of Type II with the Cosmological Constant

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An exact solution of the current-free Einstein–Maxwell equations with the cosmological constant is presented. It is of Petrov type II, and its double principal null vector is geodesic, shear-free, expanding, and twisting. The solution contains five constants. Its electromagnetic field is non-null and aligned. The solution admits only one Killing vector and includes, as special cases, several known solutions.

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This note presents an exact and explicit solution of the current-free Einstein–Maxwell equations with the cosmological constant. The solution in question may be written in the form

$$ds^2 = 2 (r^2 + n^2) d\zeta d\bar{\zeta} + 2 dr k_\mu dx^\mu + W (k_\mu dx^\mu)^2$$

with the electromagnetic field tensor

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\zeta\bar{\zeta}} &= \frac{1}{2}b (\zeta - \bar{\zeta}) + in \left\{ \zeta \left[a - \frac{3}{2}b (r + in)^{-1} - iA \right] \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \bar{\zeta} \left[a - \frac{3}{2}b (r - in)^{-1} + iA \right] \right\} , \\ F_{\zeta u} &= -a + \frac{1}{2}b (r + in)^{-1} + iA , \\ F_{\zeta r} &= in\bar{\zeta}F_{ur} , \\ F_{ur} &= \frac{1}{2}b \left[\zeta (r + in)^{-2} + \bar{\zeta} (r - in)^{-2} \right] , \end{aligned}$$

where

$$k_\mu dx^\mu = du + in (\bar{\zeta} d\zeta - \zeta d\bar{\zeta}) ,$$

$$\begin{aligned} W &:= (r^2 + n^2)^{-1} \left[\Lambda \left(\frac{1}{3}r^4 + 2n^2r^2 - n^4 \right) + 2r (m + 2ab\zeta\bar{\zeta} + Bu) - b^2\zeta\bar{\zeta} \right] , \\ A &:= (2n)^{-1} (b + C) , \quad B := n^{-2}b (b + C) , \quad C := \pm (b^2 - 4a^2n^2)^{1/2} , \end{aligned}$$

and where ζ and $\bar{\zeta}$ are complex and conjugate coordinates, r and u are real coordinates, Λ is the cosmological constant, m is an arbitrary real constant, and a , b , and n are real constant arbitrary to a certain extent. Relations involving a , b , and n are discussed below.

Our solution is of Petrov type II iff $b \neq 0$. Its double Debever–Penrose vector is just k^μ determined by the 1-form $k_\mu dx^\mu$ given above, i.e. $k^\mu = \delta_r^\mu$. k^μ is geodesic and shear-free. The rates of expansion θ and of rotation ω of k^μ are given by the following complex equation:

$$\theta + i\omega = (r + in)^{-1} .$$

Thus, for every $r \neq 0$ we have $\theta \neq 0$, and $\omega = 0$ iff $n = 0$. k^μ is also a principal null vector of our electromagnetic field ($k_{[\mu}F_{\nu]\tau}k^\tau = 0$), i.e. our case is aligned.

This field is non-null iff $b \neq 0$. Another Debever–Penrose vector (single if type II, double if type D; for subcases of Petrov type D see below), say l^μ , is determined by $l_\mu dx^\mu = dr + \frac{1}{2}Wk_\mu dx^\mu$. Our solution admits only one Killing vector, say ξ^μ , such that

$$\xi^\zeta = i\zeta, \quad \xi^r = \xi^u = 0.$$

Our solution includes, as special cases, several known solutions. They can be obtained by eliminating some of the constants, without making infinite values of course. Note that A and B , and thus C , must be real.

If we put $a = b = 0$, then we eliminate the electromagnetic field and obtain the well-known luxonic variant (zero Gaussian curvature of a 2-space with the metric $(r^2 + n^2) d\zeta d\bar{\zeta}$, $r = \text{constant}$) of the Taub–NUT solution with the cosmological constant. This solution, found by many authors, is of Petrov type D iff $m \neq 0$ or $n\Lambda \neq 0$.

If we want to obtain subsolutions with the electromagnetic field but without the rotation ($n = 0$), then we have to assume that $a \neq 0$ or $b \neq 0$. If we put $b = 0$, then, according to our assumption, we have to keep $a \neq 0$. Then, however, A becomes imaginary, which is forbidden. (A occurs as an additive term in some of $F_{\mu\nu}$'s expressed in terms of only real coordinates, e.g. when $\zeta = x + iy$.) Thus we have to assume that $b \neq 0$ (but only at the beginning of the procedure, see below), and therefore we may not simply put $n = 0$ because of the negative powers of n in A and B . We may, however, consider the limiting transition $n \rightarrow 0$.

If $bC > 0$ (C being real of course), then the limiting transition $n \rightarrow 0$ is forbidden since it would make infinities.

If $bC < 0$ and $n \rightarrow 0$, then $A \rightarrow 0$, $B \rightarrow 2a^2$, and our ds^2 falls under a category of metric forms for which all the possible electromagnetic fields were found [1];² and then we obtain the solution (3.4) from [1], found earlier by Leroy [2].³ In

²In [1] the signs of the cosmological constant (denoted therein by λ) are opposite to those commonly assumed, i.e. $\lambda = -\Lambda$.

³In [2] this solution is presented in a different coordinate system by eqs. (6.12c). It is quoted in the monograph [3] as eqs. (24.54d) where, in the second equation, x should read e^x

this solution, being of Petrov type II iff $b \neq 0$, a and b are independent. If we put $b = 0$, then we obtain a special case of some of the solutions listed in [1]. This special case ($b = n = 0$) is of Petrov type D iff $a \neq 0$ or $m \neq 0$, conformally flat iff $a = m = 0$ and $\Lambda \neq 0$, and flat iff $a = m = \Lambda = 0$.

If we assume that $C = 0$, then our solution is still of Petrov type II and twisting (iff $an \neq 0$, since $b^2 = 4a^2n^2$ in this case), but it contains only one electromagnetic constant, a , and does not contain the negative powers of n in A and B . If we put $n = 0$, then we obtain the special case described at the end of the preceding paragraph.

The solution presented in this note should be considered as new since, as far as I know, no solutions generalizing those listed in [1] (excluding solution (3.2) therein) have been published.

REFERENCES

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(multiplied by a proper constant; notation after [3]). This misprint is corrected on p. 11 in [4], but the correction is there unfortunately related to the next eqs. (24.54e) in [3].